



COUNCILMEMBER CARL DEMaIO

FIFTH DISTRICT


CITY OF SAN DIEGO

MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 4, 2010

TO: Mayor and City Council

CC: City Attorney

FROM: Councilmember Carl DeMaio 

RE: Enacting Comprehensive Pension Reforms

In light of the report issued today documenting examples of outrageous pension payouts in the city's retirement programs, I urge the Mayor and City Council to commit to achieving comprehensive pension reform in the City of San Diego.

Advancing pension reform begins with being honest about what legal options do exist to reform pension benefits. Since taking office I have outlined a number of legal pension reform options – which are outlined in the attached Pension Reform Options matrix.

It was only a year ago that some city leaders were proclaiming “mission accomplished” on pension reform and dismissing the notion that any additional reforms could be legally made. I appreciate the efforts of the City Attorney to dispel those claims through his sound analysis of the various legal pension reforms we still can and should implement.

As such, I respectfully request that the Mayor and City Council work together on a comprehensive pension reform package – and be ready to place the package before the voters to lock-in accountability for accomplishing the reforms.

Should the Mayor and City Council fail to lead and offer a package that solves the pension crisis facing the city, I pledge to work with responsible civic leaders on the outside of city government to qualify and place a pension reform ballot measure before the people in the soonest election.

City leaders should not tolerate a continuation of the excessive payouts in the city's pension system documented in today's report. I look forward to working with you to advance long-overdue reforms to the City's pension system.